

downward back into the passageway, or opening over which it is disposed. Second groom flange 332 likewise acts to maintain the fiber optic cables in the desired or predetermined fiber optic cable passageway when spool 111 is rotated. --.

Please replace the paragraph numbered [0055] beginning on page 16 with the following clean replacement paragraph in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(1)(ii):

– [0055] Figure 10 is an elevation view of the embodiment of the spool 111 (illustrated in Figure 10), showing guide framework with first grooming flange 330, second grooming flange 332, first transverse flange 334 with the flanged surface 334a and outward edge 335. The bottom outward portion 338 of first transverse flange 334 would be located in a groove provided by a base as explained and shown more fully below. Figure 10 also illustrates an outwardly facing curve surface 333 of the spool 111 which provides a surface against which fiber optic cables may be routed and bend radius thereby maintained. Although Figure 10 does not illustrate, there is preferably a curved surface between the flanged surface 334a and the outwardly facing curve surface 333 to further protect fiber optic cables routed there-against.

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Please replace the paragraph numbered [0057] beginning on page 16 with the following clean replacement paragraph in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(1)(ii):

A³ -- [0057] Figure 12 shows a splice housing, but which may also be a storage housing. Shown are structure within splice housing 110, base 347 with first groove 350, passageway 348 and inwardly facing surface 349. Fiber optic cables may be routed through fiber optic cable passageway 348 with the inwardly facing surface 349 acting as an inward guide and providing bend radius protection in combination with outwardly facing curve surface 343 as illustrated in Figure 10. First groove 350 provides the recessed area into which first transverse flange 334 may be inserted (as shown in prior figures). Resilient latches 351 shown in Figure 12 may impart an outward and downward force on ledge 333 of spool 111 (shown in prior figures) to place a bias force on spool 111 preferably into a groove. The placement of the bias force on the outward edge 335 (shown in Figure 10) serves to prevent fiber optic cables of any diameter from being inadvertently pinched or caught between components. --.

Please replace the paragraph numbered [0060] beginning on page 18 with the following clean replacement paragraph in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(b)(1)(ii):

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-- [0060] Figure 13 is section view 13-13 from Figure 12 and illustrates latch 351, groove 350 with first outward edge 350a to groove 350. Groove 350 is configured to receive a guide framework 111 such as that shown in Figure 9, and latches such as latch 351 are configured to impart a downward force on an outer edge of the guide framework first transverse flange to assure fiber optic cables do not become pinched or trapped between components. --

In the Claims

Please replace the claims with the following clean version of the entire set of pending claims, in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(1)(I). Cancel all previous versions of any pending claim.

A marked up version showing amendments to any claims being changed is provided in one or more accompanying pages separate from this amendment in accordance with 37 C.F.R. § 1.121(c)(1)(ii). Any claim not accompanied by a marked up version has not been changed relative to the immediate prior version,

except that marked up versions are not being supplied for any added claim or canceled claim.

AS 1. A fiber optic cable connector tray system comprising:

a tray framework with a first end, a second end, a first side and a second side;
a plurality of fiber optic cable adapter holding structures mounted to the tray framework such that fiber optic connectors therein would be in a generally transverse orientation from the first side to the second side of the tray framework, the plurality of fiber optic cable adapter holding structures each comprising:

a first adapter mount area configured to receive a first adapter;

a second adapter mount area configured to receive a second adapter; and

a fiber optic cable passageway between the first adapter mount area and the second adapter mount area.

2. A fiber optic cable connector tray system as recited in claim 1, and further wherein the plurality of adapter holding structures are configured to receive at least sixteen FC-type adapters.

3. A fiber optic cable connector tray system as recited in claim 1, and further wherein the plurality of adapter holding structures are configured to receive at least twenty-four FC-type adapters.

4. A fiber optic cable connector tray system as recited in claim 1, and further comprising a cabinet with an internal cavity configured to slidably receive the tray framework.

5. A fiber optic cable connector tray system as recited in claim 1, and further wherein the first adapter mount area and the second adapter mount area further comprise:

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an alignment guide disposed to insert into an aperture in an FC-type adapter when the FC-type adapter is mounted to the adapter mount area; and

a latch configured to secure a first FC-type adapter to the first adapter mount area, and a second latch configured to secure a second FC-type adapter to the adapter holding structure.

6. A fiber optic cable connector tray system as recited in claim 1, and further wherein the plurality of adapter holding structures are slidably mounted to the tray framework such that they may be slid in a direction away from a base of the tray framework.

7. A fiber optic cable connector tray system as recited in claim 6, and further wherein the tray system comprises a plurality of base apertures in the base of the tray framework corresponding and adjacent to the plurality of adapter holding

structures, the plurality of base apertures providing access to the plurality of adapter holding structures through the base.

8. A fiber optic cable connector tray system as recited in claim 1, and further wherein the fiber optic cable adapter holding structures are mounted at a mount angle less than ninety degrees relative to a base of the tray framework.

9. A fiber optic cable connector tray system as recited in claim 8, and wherein the mount angle is less than ten degrees.

10. A fiber optic cable connector tray system as recited in claim 1, and further comprising a cable storage area on the tray framework, the cable storage area being generally transversely oriented from the first side to the second side of the tray framework.

11. A fiber optic cable connector tray system as recited in claim 10, and further comprising a splice housing mounted to the tray framework above the cable storage area.

12. A fiber optic cable connector tray system as recited in claim 11, and further wherein the splice housing is pivotally mounted to the tray framework above the cable storage area.

13. A connector tray system as recited in claim 9, and further wherein the plurality of adapter holding structures are configured to receive at least eight FC-type adapters.

14. A fiber optic cable connector tray system as recited in claim 9, and further wherein the plurality of adapter holding structures are configured to receive at least twelve FC-type adapters.

AS 15. A fiber optic cable connector tray system as recited in claim 1, and further wherein the plurality of fiber optic cable adapter holding structures are mounted to the tray framework in a non-linear array.

16. A fiber optic cable connector tray system as recited in claim 1, and further wherein a first of the plurality of fiber optic cable adapter holding structures is mounted to the tray framework offset from a second of the plurality of adapter holding structures, and disposed such that a fiber optic cable attached to an adapter on the first of the plurality of adapter holding structures passes through the passageway on the second of the plurality of adapter holding structures.

17. A fiber optic cable connector tray system as recited in claim 16, and further wherein a third of the plurality of fiber optic cable adapter holding

structures is mounted to the tray framework offset from a fourth of the plurality of adapter holding structures, and disposed such that a fiber optic cable attached to an adapter on the third of the plurality of adapter holding structures passes through the passageway on the fourth of the plurality of adapter holding structures.

AS 18. A fiber optic cable connector tray system as recited in claim 16, and further wherein a fifth of the plurality of fiber optic cable adapter holding structures is mounted to the tray framework offset from a sixth of the plurality of adapter holding structures, and disposed such that a fiber optic cable attached to an adapter on the fifth of the plurality of adapter holding structures passes through the passageway on the sixth of the plurality of adapter holding structures.

19. A fiber optic cable connector tray comprised of:

a tray framework with a first end, a second end, a first side and a second side;

a plurality of fiber optic cable adapter holding structures mounted to the tray framework, the fiber optic adapter holding structures being mounted such that fiber optic connectors therein would be in a general orientation from the first side to the second side of the tray framework and including an adapter holding structure comprised of:

a first adapter mount area configured to receive a first adapter, the first adapter mount area including an alignment guide disposed to insert into an aperture in the first adapter when the adapter is mounted to the framework;

a second adapter mount area configured to receive a second adapter, the second adapter mount area including an alignment guide disposed to insert into an aperture in the second adapter when the adapter is mounted to the framework;

a first latch configured to secure the first adapter to the first adapter mount area, and a second latch configured to secure the second adapter to the framework; and

AS a fiber optic cable passageway between the first adapter mount area and the second adapter mount area;

wherein a first one of the plurality of adapter holding structures is mounted offset from a second one of the plurality of adapter holding structures, and disposed such that a fiber optic cable connected to the first one of the plurality of adapter holding structures may be routed through the fiber optic cable passageway of the second one of the plurality of adapter holding structures.

20. A fiber optic cable connector tray as recited in claim 19, and further comprised of a plurality of tray framework apertures adjacent the plurality of fiber optic cable adapter holding structures mounted to the tray framework, and

through which the adapter holding structures may be accessed from below the framework.

21. A fiber optic cable connector tray as recited in claim 19, and further wherein the fiber optic cable adapter holding structures are mounted at an angle relative to a plane perpendicular to the tray framework.

22. A fiber optic cable connector tray as recited in claim 21, and wherein the angle is less than ten degrees.

AS 23. A fiber optic cable adapter holding structure comprised of:

an adapter holding structure comprised of:

a first adapter mount area configured to receive a first FC-type adapter, the first adapter mount area including an alignment guide disposed to insert into an aperture in the first FC-type adapter when the adapter is mounted to a holder framework;

a second adapter mount area configured to receive a second FC-type adapter, the second adapter mount area including an alignment guide disposed to insert into an aperture in the second FC-type adapter when the adapter is mounted to the holder framework; and

a first latch configured to secure the first FC-type adapter to the first adapter mount area, and a second latch configured to secure the second FC-type adapter to the holder framework; and

a fiber optic cable passageway between the first adapter mount area and the second adapter mount area.

24. A fiber optic cable adapter holding structure for use in combination with an FC adapter, the adapter holding structure comprised of:

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a first adapter mount area on a holder framework configured to receive a first FC-type adapter, the first adapter mount area including an alignment guide disposed to insert into an aperture in the first FC-type adapter when the adapter is mounted to the holder framework;

a first latch configured to secure the first FC-type adapter to the first adapter mount area; and

wherein the holder framework has a width which is less than or equal to the FC-type adapter width.

25. A fiber optic cable adapter holding structure as recited in claim 24, and wherein the holder framework is further comprised of:

a second adapter mount area on the holder framework configured to receive a second FC-type adapter abutting the first adapter, the second adapter mount area including an alignment guide disposed to insert into an aperture in the

second FC-type adapter when the adapter is mounted to the holder framework; and wherein the holder framework has a width which is less or equal to the first FC-type adapter and the second FC-type adapter abutted together.

26. A fiber optic cable adapter holding structure as recited in claim 24, and wherein the holder framework is further comprised of:

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① a second adapter mount area on the framework configured to receive a second FC-type adapter, the second adapter mount area including an alignment guide disposed to insert into an aperture in the second FC-type adapter when the adapter is mounted to the holder framework;

a fiber optic cable passageway between the first adapter mount area and the second adapter mount area; and

wherein the holder framework has a width which is less than or equal to the sum of widths of the first FC-type adapter, the second FC-type adapter and the fiber optic cable passageway.

27. A fiber optic cable adapter holding structure comprised of:

an adapter holding structure comprised of:

a first adapter mount area configured to receive a first FC-type adapter, the first adapter mount area including an alignment means to position the first FC-type adapter when it is mounted to the framework;

a second adapter mount area configured to receive a second FC-type adapter, the second adapter mount area including an alignment means to position the second FC-type adapter when it is mounted to the framework; and

a first attachment means to secure the first FC-type adapter to the first adapter mount area, and a second attachment means to secure the second FC-type adapter to the framework

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28. A fiber optic cable adapter holding structure as recited in claim 27, and further comprised of a fiber optic cable passageway between the first adapter mount area and the second adapter mount area
